

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Withdrawn) A food cutting device comprising:

a body having two longitudinal edges and a blade configured such that its cutting edge is a predetermined distance from a plate provided therein, wherein said plate is selected from a set of plates associated with different cutting thicknesses;

a storage caddy having a housing and a pair of housing guides, said housing guides configured to slideably connect to at least one of said longitudinal edges of said body, said storage caddy configured to store one or more of said set of plates during non-use.

10. (Withdrawn) The food cutting device of claims 9, wherein one of said plates includes a protector configured to cover said blade on the underside of said body.

11. (Withdrawn) The food cutting device of claims 10, wherein said storage caddy is configured such that said plate including a protector cannot be inserted in said caddy, but is configured to be inserted in said body during storage.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A food cutting device comprising:

a body having a first longitudinal edge extending in a cutting direction and a substantially "V"-shaped blade configured such that the cutting edge of said blade is a predetermined distance from a surface associated with said body; and

a food holder connectable to said body by a guide located at a first end of said food holder, said first end being substantially parallel to said first longitudinal edge, said guide configured to slidably connect to said first longitudinal edge of said body to thereby bring a food item in contact with said blade, said food holder further configured to hinge about said first end to allow simultaneous sliding and rotation of said food holder relative to said first longitudinal edge, wherein rotating said food holder into an open position exposes said cutting edge and enables cutting food without said food holder.

14. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 13, wherein said food holder is configured to slide along an axis parallel to said first longitudinal edge.

15. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 13, wherein said blade is integral to a plate that is removable from said body.

16. (Currently amended) The food cutting device of claim 13, wherein said food holder includes a hollow portion and a removable plunger portion.

17. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 16, wherein said plunger includes a plurality of protrusions along at least one of its surfaces.

18. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 13, wherein said food holder includes a plurality of protrusions along at least one of its surfaces.

19. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 13, wherein said body further includes a second longitudinal edge substantially parallel to said first longitudinal edge and said food holder is slidably connectable to either of said first or second longitudinal edges.

20-26 (Cancelled)

27 . (Currently amended) A food cutting device comprising:

a body having a first longitudinal edge extending in a cutting direction, a second longitudinal edge substantially parallel to said first longitudinal edge and a blade configured such that the cutting edge of said blade is a predetermined distance from a surface associated with said body;

a food holder connectable to said body by a guide located at a first end of said food holder, said first end being substantially parallel to either of said first or second longitudinal edges, said guide configured to slidably connect to either of said first or second longitudinal edges of said body to thereby bring a food item in contact with said blade, said food holder further configured to hinge about said first end to allow simultaneous sliding and rotation of said food holder relative to said first or second longitudinal edge to which it is connected, wherein rotating said food holder into an open position exposes said cutting edge and enables cutting food without said food holder.

28. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 27, wherein said food holder is configured to slide along an axis parallel to said first longitudinal edge.

29. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 27, wherein said blade is substantially "V"-shaped.

30. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 27, wherein said blade is integral to a plate that is removable from said body.

31. (Currently amended) The food cutting device of claim 27, wherein said food holder includes a hollow portion and a removable plunger portion.

32. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 27, wherein said food holder includes a plurality of protrusions along at least one of its surfaces.

33. (Previously presented) The food cutting device of claim 31, wherein said plunger includes a plurality of protrusions along at least one of its surfaces.